

MISCELLANEA

ADDENDUM

With reference to my paper on 'A New Cestode from Nigeria,' in *Annals of Tropical Medicine & Parasitology*, Vol. XIX, No. 2, pp. 2 and 3, Dr. Joyeux has called attention to a species (*L. mahdiaensis*) described by him in *Archives de l'Institut Pasteur de Tunis*, Vol. XII, No. 2, p. 146.

Joyeux's species is distinct from those listed in my paper.

T. SOUTHWELL.

FILARIA MEDINENSIS

'The National Diseases here (Gold Coast of Guinea) are the *Small Pox* and *Worms*; . . . with the latter they are miserably afflicted in all parts of their Bodies, but chiefly in their Legs; which occasions a grievous Pain, which they are forced to bear till they can get the *Worm* quite out, that being sometimes a Month: The manner which the Artists take to get it out is this; as soon as the *Worm* is broken thro' the Tumour, his Head commonly first making its way, after they have drawn it out a little way, they make it fast to a stick, about which they every day wind a small part of it, till continuing this tedious Method, they have entirely wound out the whole, and the Patient is freed from his Pain. But if the *Worm* happens to break, they are put to a double Torture, the remainder part of the worm either rotting in the Body, or breaking out at some other place. The Negroes are most afflicted with these *Worms*: But though the Europeans are but seldom troubled with them, yet they do not escape them entirely. I have seen some Negroes who had nine or ten of them at once, with which

they were inexpressibly tormented. This *Worm-Disease* is frequent all the Coast over; but our Men are most tormented with it at *Cormantyn* and *Apam*; which perhaps may be occasioned by the foul Water which they are obliged to drink there. If you would know the length of these Worms, Monsieur *Focquenbrog* obligeth you with a pathetic Description; by which you are informed that they are some of them an Ell-long, and some as long as Pikes, and have not the patience to stay till the Man is dead, but seize him alive.'

(*A New and Accurate Description of the Coast of Guinea, divided into the Gold, the Slave, and the Ivory Coasts.* p. 108. Written originally in Dutch, by William Bosman, 1705. Reprinted for Sir Alfred Jones, K.C.M.G., at the Ballantyne Press, London, 1907.)

J. W. W. STEPHENS.

THE PREDACEOUS HABIT OF THE LARVAE *MUCIDUS SCATOPHAGOIDES*

The following interesting note on the predaceous habit of the larvae of this mosquito has just been received from Dr. Innes, of Bathurst.

'I am glad to be able to send you two ♂♂ and one ♀ *Mucidus scatophagoides*. I got them as large creamy-coloured larvae, in shallow grassy pools (rainwater) with some other culicine and anopheline larvae. Two pupated on the way to my office. Others pupated later. The pupa stage lasts about two days and the pupae also are creamy coloured. The larvae are larvivorous: I fed larvae to them which were all quickly devoured. I think this accounts for the very few larvae of other species of mosquitos which I found in the pools in association with these ogres.—FRANK A. INNES, Bathurst, Gambia, *October 21st, 1925.*'